

ABSTRACT

In an information recording medium on and from which information is recorded and reproduced by applying light or electric energy, a recording layer which generates reversible phase change is formed so as to include a material containing Ge, Bi, Te and an element "M" which material is expressed with $(\text{GeTe})_x[(\text{M}_2\text{Te}_3)_y(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)_{1-y}]_{100-x}$ (mol %) wherein "M" represents at least one element selected from Al, Ga and In, and "x" and "y" satisfy $80 \leq x < 100$ and $0 < y \leq 0.9$, whereby the medium is obtained which ensures a high erasability and an excellent archival characteristic at a high linear velocity and in a wide range of linear velocities.